



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**  
Philadelphia District

## **PROJECT FACT SHEET**

**Schuylkill River Estuary  
Philadelphia, PA**

**August 2005**

**DISTRICT:** Philadelphia

**CONGRESSIONAL INFO:** Sen. Specter, PA; Sen. Santorum, PA; Rep. Brady, PA-1; Fattah, PA-2

**ACTIVITY:** General Investigation

**AUTHORITY:** Resolution of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives on the Schuylkill River Basin, Pennsylvania, adopted March 16, 2000, Docket 2626.

**LOCATION:** The Schuylkill River estuary, located in southeastern Pennsylvania, drains a 2,100 square-mile watershed encompassing ten counties and empties into the Delaware River. The focus of this study includes the tidal portion of the river and environs from the Fairmount Dam to its meeting with the Delaware River; approximately 8 linear miles of waterway and the surrounding floodplain.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The Schuylkill River Estuary has been heavily urbanized since the early-nineteenth century and the shoreline altered by human activity. A Reconnaissance Study was initiated in the spring of 2003 and determined the Federal interest for further feasibility studies regarding environmental restoration and protection, stream corridor management, flood control, recreation, water quality control, and other related water resources problems and needs of this primarily urban river ecosystem. The Expedited Reconnaissance Study involved a comprehensive review of existing and new information, and ongoing endeavors in the study area. A Project Management Plan and Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement are being drafted to facilitate initiation of the Feasibility Phase. During the Feasibility Study, measures to restore and protect the tidal Schuylkill River will be evaluated. Measures may include the restoration of streambanks, riparian and wetland areas, brownfields re-use, providing public access to the waterway and dedicated greenway corridors, and acquiring critical lands to serve as buffer zones. The reconnaissance phase is scheduled for completion in 2005 with the signing of a Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement.

**PROJECT PHASE:** Reconnaissance

**PROJECT STATUS:** FY 2004 tasks included continuation of the Section 905(b) (WRDA 86) analysis, preliminary analysis of existing conditions, and initiation of the Feasibility PMP. FY2005 funding will be used to complete these tasks, as well as to initiate the Feasibility Study with the signing of a Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement.

## **SCHUYLKILL RIVER ESTUARY** *(continued)*

### **FINANCIAL SUMMARY:**\*

	<u>Reconnaissance</u>	<u>Feasibility</u>
Estimated Federal Cost	\$235,000	\$1,231,000
Estimated Non-Federal Cost	\$0	\$1,231,000
Total Estimated Project Cost	\$235,000	\$2,462,000
Allocation thru FY 2004	\$195,000	\$0
Allocation for FY 2005	\$40,000	\$0
Budget Request for FY2006	\$0	\$572,000
Balance to complete after FY2006	\$0	\$659,000

\* These figures reflect what is currently estimated to be project costs and are different from what is presented on the JOE sheet. A request will be submitted to CENAD to change the official project cost.

**SPONSOR:** The City of Philadelphia Water Department

**CRITICAL ISSUES:** None

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